MED. LIB.
610.5
H18
V.1 no.2

The Hampden Hippocrat

A Bulletin for the Hampden District of the Massachusetts Medical Society

VOLUME I JUNE, 1942 NUMBER 2

CITY LIBRARY
SPRINGFIELD, MASS.

GUEST EDITORIAL

DR. ALLEN G. RICE, Regional Medical Director, O. C. D., Region No. 2

It can now be said that organization for civilian defense in Massachusetts by the State Committee on Public Safety is complete. While from the beginning the principle was adopted that civilian defense is a local problem, the state committee has exerted general oversight in order that local efforts might be coordinated and standardized as far as possible. To that end the state has been divided into nine regions; each region has in turn been subdivided into districts corresponding roughly to county lines; and each district has been still again divided into local units, each of which is a town or city.

At the top of course is the Massachusetts Committee on Public Safety, more specifically its Executive Secretary, Mr. J. W. Farley. Over each region and under the authority of the executive secretary is a Regional Director. Under him over each district is a Deputy Director. Under the deputy director is a Local General Chairman for each city and town. It is the duty of these key men to visualize their regional, district, and local problems of civilian defense and to solve them.

In such a great undertaking as civilian defense a division of labor was wisely adopted. Thus there has been set up a Division of Planning, another of Service and supply, a Medical Division, etc. At the head of the Medical Division, for example, is the Medical Director. Under him or each region is a Regional Medical Director. Under the regional directors are Deputy Medical Directors for the districts; and under them Chief Medical Officers in every city and town. Each and every division has a similar organization down through districts and towns. It is the duty of state, regional, and district heads to see that their specific jobs are done in every city and town, and even more important to see that the efforts of the different divisions are coordinated.

Responsibilities of Hospitals

1. Run day and night for ordinary routine work and, in addition, be provided to adequately care for patients during a "black out".
2. Be prepared to care for casualties that may arise as a result of an air raid or explosion. In addition, be prepared to enter these victims through a "light lock" during a "black out" as well as being able to care for them under "black out" conditions.
3. Be ready to send house patients home to make room for the care of fresh casualities. It is estimated that 40 percent of the ordinary hospital can be discharged home in an emergency.
4. Be organized so that you could move hospital supplies, personnel

Hampden Hippocrat

"Life is short and art is long, the occasion fleeting, experience fallacious and judgment difficult." —Hippocrates, 430 B.C.

OFFICERS OF
HAMPDEN DISTRICT MEDICAL SOCIETY

President—Dr. George L. Steele
Vice-President—Dr. E. A. Knowlton
Secretary-Treasurer—Dr. Wayne C. Barnes

It is moved that the Hampden District Medical Society create a committee to be known as the Publications Committee, to publish such items quarterly as will be of interest to the members of this society.

This committee shall be appointed by the president, and consist of an editor in chief, and two associates to be responsible for this publication; an executive secretary, and an Advisory Committee of not over fifteen members.

For the year 1942 the expense to the society of this publication shall not exceed one hundred dollars.

The president and secretary of this committee shall be ex-officio members of this committee.

The treasurer of the society will handle and be responsible for all monies of this committee.

The President has appointed:—
Editor in chief, E. P. Bagg, of Holyoke, associate editors, George Steele of Springfield, Patrick Gear of Holyoke, executive secretary, W. A. R. Chapin of Springfield.

The members of the Advisory Committee will be Archie Douglas of Westfield, Eugene Beauchamp of Springfield, Alphonse Palermo of Springfield, George Schadt, Springfield, Fenn Hoyt, Springfield, Patrick Moriarty of Chicopee, Norman Pokorny, of Springfield, W. W. Wilder of Springfield and Joseph Hahn of Springfield

Address Correspondence to:
Dr. W. A. R. Chapin
121 Chestnut Street, Springfield, Mass.
Telephone 2-7213

and patients out of the district, say as far as Ohio.

5. Be organized to protect yourself from incendiary fires.

To insure that you are ready to cope with all or either one of these five functions it is recommended that you have practice "black outs", and "drills" to care for an influx of casualties over a short period of time, even under "black out" conditions.

Be sure to check your water supply; electricity, both as to power and light; gas; and sewerage disposal, so as to have them available from another source in the event of a direct hit to your supply.

On April 30th the Massachusetts Committee on Public Safety conducted a School for Physicians on the Medical Aspects of Chemical Warfare. This meeting was held from 8:00 a. m. until after 5:00 p. m. It brought home to those attending the seriousness of gas warfare. Every hospital should think about creating facilities in order that it may decontaminate injured victims before they are admitted to the hospital and thus avoid contamination of the institution. Separate accommodations for men and women have to be provided; a room in which to disrobe the victims; containers for the infected clothing; a room in which the victims can be bathed and then a place in which they can be dressed in fresh clothing.

The booklet on First Aid in the Prevention and Treatment of Chemical Casualities prepared by the Medical Division of Civilian Defense, Washington, D. C., may be secured from the Superintendent of Documents at Washington, D. C., for the small sum of ten cents.

EUGENE WALKER, M.D.
Deputy Regional Hospital Head
District Number 2

Raleigh Drug Co.
DRUGGISTS
190 State Street Springfield

Professional Bldg. Pharmacy
Inc.
18 Maple Street Springfield

Evacuation Plans

The Massachusetts Committee on Public Safety under the chairmanship of ex-Governor Channing H. Cox is determined that citizens shall be protected from the depradation of all enemies. Organization to cover every detail has been commendable, thorough and in full cooperation with the federal Office of Civilian Defense to avoid duplication of effort. Extensive knowledge of the lessons which England was obliged to learn by bitter experience has been made available for use in this country, and thus to avoid mistakes.

An Evacuation Division has been set up under the direction of General J. H. Sherburne to perfect plans for the care of individuals who may have to move from their homes because of military necessity, such, for example, as the imminence or the event of bombing. Communities must be prepared to move out possible victims from vulnerable areas on military order. Other centers, not so exposed, must make ready to receive evacuees. Mobilization and transport plans are complete, and shelter and food has been undertaken by the Red Cross. At least one such Mobile Canteen, is already gaining experience in Holyoke, by feeding large groups of mill operatives at specified times, is ready for emergency service.

Of course medical problems must arise when the routine lives of numbers of people are dislocated. The exanthemata may appear if children are concerned. Parturition like the tide, waits upon no man, in fact may be accelerated by the stimulation of high explosives. Nitroglycerine, obviously, is better for angina pectoris when administered internally. And one must expect hysteria even in the best managed evacuations. These and other similar conditions, then, are the concerns of medical evacuation which in spite of appearances, bears no specific relation to catharsis. Nor is medical first aid undertaken except for minor scratches or sprains. The wounded are treated by the Medical Service whose Chief is Dr. E. C. Cutler. Seriously ill patients, like the gravely wounded, are transferred at once by ambulance to hospitals.

It is this work for which many of you have been asked to volunteer. Dr. Richard M. Smith of Boston is the Chief Evacuation Medical Officer for Massachusetts, and Dr. E. P. Bagg of Holyoke Chief for Region II, which comprises the Connecticut valley. The latter's Deputies are Dr. Norman A. Pokorny of Springfield for District A, which corresponds to Hampden; Dr. Merritt B. Low of Greenfield for District B, or Franklin; and for District C, Hampshire, Dr. Justin E. Hayes of Northampton. Districts C and B are fully organized and the work is well underway in most of Hampden County. In many localities where medical men are scarce, some of them have been asked to cover both the Medical Service and Evacuation Medical assignments. It is possible that they may never be called into action, but at least Region II is prepared.

Emergency Decision

As we go to press, the important issue of possible enlistment of men from non-approved schools during the emergency, with minimal requirements of school and hospital training, and American citizenship, provided five recognized doctors give written approval, comes before the Executive Committee of the State Society for action.

Dentists & Surgeons Supply Co.
340 Bridge Street
Springfield Massachusetts

Harris Pharmacy
139 Chestnut Street
Springfield Massachusetts

Dr. Reginald Fitz of the Procurement and Assignment Service for Massachusetts hopes that by such an arrangement, the present inadequate numbers of approved physicians enlisting may be multiplied.

Recommendations on this question, so important to our embattled armed Services and to the future of medicine in Massachusetts would be forwarded to the Council on Medical Education and Hospitals of the American Medical Association.

To us it would seem advisable to protect the assets of approved physicians who enroll in defense of their country, by letting down the bars as far as possible without jeopardizing the well-being of either the armed or the unarmed divisions of the citizenry.

If any members are deterred from joining up by such considerations, they need no longer delay. Haste in this emergency not only does not make waste, but may indeed shorten the period of sacrifice.

EDITORIAL

The sole point of agreement common to the thousand and one commentators, who foist their assorted diagnoses of the status of civilization upon a defenceless world over the air, in print and from the uncounted platforms, may be suggested by the compact noun 'flux'. Most of us would agree that the affairs of our troubled world literally are 'continuously flowing', quite in accord with the definition of the dictioneer. Dr. James Gordon Gilkey of Hampden County is not the first student of political economy to draw attention to the fact that times do change. Q. Horatius Flaccus said as much when Augustus Caesar succeeded in his original quest for a third term. No doubt Cro-Magnon commentators were well paid to broadcast identical remarks about their own succession to dominance.

But Dr. Gilkey further echoes the declaration that we are partaking of the essence of revolution which J. J. Rousseau re-discovered sometime since, whereby the restraints enforced upon mere men are thrown off, and the have-nots acquire for themselves that which the haves heretofore have had. In the light of that argument, the putsching paperhanger from Munich, who has so effectually pasted out the grotesque modern caricature of Caesar Augustus, is merely an incidental excrescence.

We would not have elected to bandy words with a Cro-Magnon who preferred cut stone as his medium of expression, much less with the polished Dr. Gilkey. But, from our cramped pigeon hole, the view that the conflict is more elemental, and economics merely the false front for weening racial intolerance, seems more acceptable. Have not Prussian bigots and Nippomaniacs plotted for generations with single minded zeal to usurp the envied place in the sun which, in their tenets, belongs to them as superior beings who, they insist, are entitled to press their scrap-iron heels upon the necks of the rest of mankind?

And the Ancient of Days, looking down, doubtless heaves a sigh as he sees the human race, heedless of the potent hint which was sent down by way of Galilee, floundering almost to self destruction in painful progress toward a solution of the exasperating experiment of populating the Earth. If we are not obliterated by thunderbolts, we may, when at length the carnage ceases, find ourselves a little closer perhaps to that goal, more tolerant and mutually more helpful. Until that day there can be no faltering if we ourselves are to survive along with our ideals of 'live and let live' —or, as befits the followers of Hippocrates, of promoting health and saving life itself.

Now that the one Commentator has delivered, not without difficulty, his answer to the other thousand, specific appli-

Massachusetts Wholesale Drug Co., Inc.

181 Taylor Street Springfield

cation must be made of the foregoing facts. Things medical themselves are in a state of flux. By-laws of the Massachusetts Medical Society, significantly are in the process of change. 'A morbid discharge of fluid matter' is the literal medical meaning of 'flux" Whether or not this applies metaphorically to the work of the Committee, which reported the proposed changes to the last meeting of the Council, depends upon the point of view. Each member of the Society is privileged to vote upon the question of ratifying these rules. It behooves each one to examine the changes and come to considered conclusions. The Editors of your Hippocrat do not see eye to eye on all these new by-laws, but we all feel that many hours of earnest work which J. Harper Blaisdell and company gave to the problem have earned your serious attention, if nothing more.

If the almost unchallenged passage of the new by-laws through the Council is any criterion, the inertia of the larger body of voters will insure their ratification at the annual meeting. Whether or not the conduct of the Society will be improved by the proposed changes will depend upon the wisdom of the members who adopt, or reject them, and of the officers who are chosen to interpret and enforce them.

Some such rules of governance, it should be obvious by now, must be evolved and administered with equal or greater wisdom in the future for the world at large. Democracy is asking for further trial at large and in our own order. If participating individuals do not summon intelligence and judgement to the task of self-government, there can be no future objection when others arise to speak for them.

Prepayment Medical Care

The Massachusetts Medical Corporation has at last become an established institution. This important child of the Massachusetts Medical Society is scheduled to come to life in June, nine months after the October meeting of the Council, where it was first accepted as their responsibility.

We are all shareholders in this corporation and it is for us to determine whether it shall survive and be a comfort to us or shall die abornin'. The incorporators at their first meeting elected the Board of Directors and applied to the Legislature for articles of incorporation. This board of fifteen directors is composed of physicians, public spirited citizens, and representatives of industry who may become subscribers to the service. From Hampden County, James Y. Scott has been elected. Five of the directors are members of The Massachusetts Medical Society and include Dr. Frank Ober and Dr. James McCann.

The committee of five entrusted with the selection of a medical director have chosen one of our members for this important position, and his appointment has received the approval of The Executive Committee of the Council. So much has appeared in the New England Journal of Medicine concerning the activities of the Council in developing the plan for prepaid care that it does not seem necessary to review the program in detail.

As no length of service of the Committees is designated, they should be appointed for one, two, and three years.

The Report of the Special Committee on pre-payment medical care Costs Insurance, which was presented at the February 4, 1942 meeting of the Council should be read by all members of our

McKesson & Robbins, Inc.
WHOLESALE DRUGS
88 Birnie Avenue Springfield

James E. Templeton & Co., Inc.
PRESCRIPTION SPECIALISTS
J. E. Templeton, Reg. Pharm.
26 Elm Street Westfield, Mass.

Society This will be found in the New England Medical Journal.

(Signed) George L. Steele
of Corporation Committee

New District Presidents

The Hampden County Medical Society has been honored during the past year in having two of its members recognized by the Massachusetts Medical Society.

Dr. Edwin P. Bagg of Holyoke has been Vice President and George L. Schadt President-Elect.

Hampden County has furnished only one president in all the years that the Massachusetts Medical Society has been in existence. This was Doctor John M. Birnie, who served from 1927 to 1929.

Dr. Schadt's term of office during the war years is bound to be marked by many eventful occasions. We are glad to offer him our full support.

It would be very fitting for the annual meeting of the State Society to be held in Springfield in 1943. It is planned to issue the invitation to the Society, and we shall be honored if Springfield is selected.

The Hippocrat offers a medium for expression of opinions and criticisms concerning our State and County Society meetings and activities, and its columns should be freely used to present constructive ideas.

Members from Hampden County who are in the service of the United States will be grateful for letters or comments which keep them abreast of events at home and it is hoped that some of these men in the service will also contribute an article or letter.

I look forward to the coming year.

George L. Steele

Dr. Schillander's Letter

(From page 8)

Just at present one of our worst enemies is the rain, and when I say rain, you can make sure you have never seen the equal. I have lived in the tropics before, but when it decides to pour down here, the skies literally open up and you'd think you were standing in front of a fire hose. My tent is located at the foot of a hill back of which are high mountains, and the water which pours down their side is literally a river and I am constantly in mud and mire up to my knees. After one of the down-pours numerous new waterfalls were born and they were indeed picturesque, and high ones, too.

Another nuisance we encounter are the bugs, lizards, land seals, mosquitos, flies, scorpions, and ants. It's terrible at night, during the blackout (which is constant) or when the alert sounds to hurry and get out of your cot. You get tangled up in your mosquito net, reach for your boots or shirt only to find that some darn land crab has carried them off to his hole, then try and hunt for your equipment, fall over a few tent ropes, and finally land flat on your face in the mud. Oh boy that's the life.

But for your interest, the fishing is good, and I suppose you wonder when we have time for any of that. Well out off the reefs you can see and catch anything, sharks, octopi, large rays, and numerous tropical fish. The sport on the inner reefs is to catch them by spearing them. The stunt is either by wearing goggles, and swimming out a bit so that you can see them along the reef and then spearing them while swimming, or else walking along the reef and doing so. Now if you have never seen or tried this stunt, it is a great sport. Needless to say the Americans at first

FUNK-DUBIN
VI-SYNERAL
The Original Vitamin-Mineral Concentrate
VITAMINS: A, B-1, B-2 (G),
C, D, E, B Complex
MINERALS: Calcium, Phosphorus, Iron,
Iodine, Manganese, Magnesium, Copper, Zinc

W. E. MARTIN
Prescription Pharmacy
876 Hampden Street Holyoke

weren't very successful, but are getting better daily. The natives hardly ever miss, and believe me it takes a good eye and accurate estimation of distance and depth in order to drive a spear through a fish.

I haven't been able to get word through to Bruce, but it is possible that someone passing this way may know of him. I frequently ask others, but nothing doing. The only fellows I meet out here are men whom I met since entering service, but no one from home.

I have been quite busy surgically also. On the way over we had quite a few belly cases, appendectomies mostly, as well as accidents to be attended to, and since establishing ourselves here we have had a smattering of everything, as well as treating the natives. Their ailments consist of yaws which everyone has, and shows a positive Wasserman, but which can be cured with a few neosalvarsan injections if not complicated. Of course syphillis is prevalent, as well as elephantiasis, fevers of all kinds, and some leprosy. The personnel here have been remarkably free from any venereal diseases even with the high positive percentage here, and I can honestly say that I do not know of a new case contracted here. We have drilled it into the men so that I believe they realize the dangers, and although we have prophylatic stations established they are very seldom used. Probably it's because they are so dead t'red at night, and the constant blackout, they have no time for meandering.

We are all black as negroes, and go about in shorts only, most of the time. Just at present the weather is like a cool summer day at home.

When I get back I have plenty of things to tell you about which I can't write you of, and I know some of the opinions out here will be a bit different than what you have at home.

We are not permitted to write our rank down. "Bobcat" is the name of this force, which is a joint expedition of the Navy and Army. By the way, a very unusual accident happened the other day. There are numerous coconut trees here abouts, and the nuts are continually falling. A soldier happened to look up just in time to have one hit him in the face, and you should see the result,—his nose, teeth, both jaws, just flattened. They fall thirty or forty feet or more, so you can readily imagine the force of the impact. He is doing okay however, but it will take a bit of plastic work eventually. The hospital setup is one of two hundred and fifty beds. We have practically everything to do with. I am associated with troops of the line, and double—doing sanitary inspection, as well as surgical work, and get a chance to ride around in a jeep, and can really see something of what's going on.

When you get a chance just heist a couple of long, cool ones for me, because that's one thing that is very scarce around these parts, and the abstinence has probably helped me to lose in all nearly forty pounds. I am really sylph-like, and without any belly at all. That goes for everyone here too. I never saw a better bunch of physicians than these over here. The hard work has put them all in find shape, and it is rare to see a pot belly in the bunch.

Remember me to all the bunch, and here's hoping that you have a very pleasant summer.

Well, best of luck and regards to all.

"Schilly"

C. A. Schillander 0-233771
A.P.O. No. 919
San Francisco, California
198th C. A. "Bobcat"

Surgical Supply Company
22 Railroad Street Holyoke

CHESTER'S DRUG STORE
305 APPLETON STREET
HOLYOKE MASSACHUSETTS

BACKGROUND

Three Decades of Clinical Experience

THE use of cow's milk, water and carbohydrate mixtures represents the one system of infant feeding that consistently, for three decades, has received universal periatric recognition. No carbohydrate employed in this system of infant feeding enjoys so rich and enduring a background of authoritative clinical experience as Dextri-Maltose.

DEXTRI-MALTOSE No. 1 (with 2% sodium chloride) for normal babies.
DEXTRI-MALTOSE No. 2 (plain, salt free), permits salt modifications by the physician.
DEXTRI-MALTOSE No. 3 (with 3% potassium bicarbonate), for constipated babies.

These products are hypo-allergenic

DEXTRI-MALTOSE

Please enclose professional card when requesting samples of Mead Johnson products to cooperate in preventing their reaching unauthorized persons.

Mead Johnson & Company, Evansville, Ind., U. S. A.

Letter from Dr. Schillander

Dear Ralph:

Your letter written February 4th just caught up with me, and as it is now past the time that I should take up my service at the hospital you can see how far away I am from you. We are not permitted to put dates in our letters—mention where we are—what activities are going on, or what organizations are involved. So you see we can only speak in generalities.

However I can say that I am located on one of those lazy tropical islands that you have so often read about in books, and probably have often wished to hibernate to, but just get that wonderful mental picture out of your mind, because here it has all been changed. To be sure when we arrived it was a lazy place, and the women went around half naked, with only a sarong thrown around them,—were a happy laughing lot, carefree, and without a thought of a worry in the world. But that's been all changed. Now the place is run over with troops, who are busy at all times, either making or repairing roads and emplacements, building structures of one kind or another, constantly on the alert, and never without their rifles and ammunition very handy.

We have had some trying days, also. On our way over here we had a number of submarine alarms, but managed to come through intact, but can't say as much for the attackers.

Things are shaping up now, and this base is rapidly being transformed, and we have seen many others go further on in preparation for the big push in the Far East, and it won't be very long now, before you read about it. We don't hear very much of what is going on all around us, but we do know that there are thousands scattered almost everywhere, and the day will soon be here when we give those slant-eyed —— — ———— a good taste of their own medicine.

(Turn back to page 6)